GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6470
ANSWERED ON:09.05.2002
OVERWEIGHT FISHPLATES
RAGHUNATH JHA

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Eastern Railway accepted overweigth fishplates resulting into extra expenditure as has been brought out by the CAG in its Report No. 9 of 1998 in paragraph 4.3.8 on pages 159-160;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken against the persons responsible for the same; (

(c) the loss caused to the State in the matter and whether there is any proposal to recover the financial loss from the persons concerned and to fix the accountability and responsibility of the authorities;

(d) whether there is a great deal of corruption in the purchase of stores in the Railways; and

(e) if so, the steps taken to overcome such corruption?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINIST RAILWAYS (SHRI O. GAJAGOPAL)

(a) to (e) : A statement is attached.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) to (e) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 6470 BY SHRI RAGHUNATH J TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 9.5.2002 REGARDING OVERWEIGTH FISHPLATES.

(a) to (c) As per standard procedure, fishplates were ordered on Durgapur Steel Plant (DSP) of Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL) in terms of weight. Payment has been made on the basis of actual weight of fish plates supplied. Hence, as far as weight of steel supplied and paid for, there is no difference. Still due to each fish plate being heavier than the nominal weight prescribed, the total number of fish plates supplied were less than the number that would have been supplied had they been of nominal weight prescribed for them. This matter has been taken up with the inspecting agency i.e., Directorate General of supplies and Disposal (DGS&D) and also with DSP,SAIL.Since both are government agencies, the matter is expected to be sorted out to the satisfaction of all concerned through mutual discussions. The details of fish plates supplied to Eastern Railways are:

Quantity in the purchase order	2283.612 MT
No. of fish plates due as per standard weight of fishplates (14.355 Kg per fish plate)	1,59,080 Nos.
Number of fish plates actually received (in Nos.)	1,44,718
Number received short	14,362

(d) & (e): No Sir. However, Railway Vigilance carries out regular checks in the areas of purchase of stores and suitable action wherever necessary is taken against the staff responsible for irregularities observed during the vigilance checks.